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OO RUEHJO  
DE RUEHSB #0664/01 2041503  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 231503Z JUL 07  
FM AMEMBASSY HARARE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1726  
INFO RUEHLS/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE 2245  
RUEHTO/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE 0944  
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 0308  
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 0591  
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY 5309  
RUEHFT/AMCONSUL FRANKFURT PRIORITY 0180  
RUEHJO/AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY 0512

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 HARARE 000664

SIPDIS

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H FOR MAYA YAMAZAKI, ANDREW MACDERMOITT AND  
RM/F/DFS/FO/AA/CAA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OREP MGT ASEC AFIN MZ ZA UK SF GM

SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE FOR STAFFDEL PHELAN (JULY 29 -  
AUGUST 1)

REF: STATE 99302

¶1. Embassy Harare grants country clearance and warmly  
welcomes the visit of Mr. Michael Phelan and Mr. Marik  
String of the minority staff of the Senate Foreign  
Relations committee (sfrc) to conduct a field-based  
study that will examine assistance funded by the State  
Department, Defense Department, USAID, and other  
agencies.

¶2. The Embassy has confirmed your reservation for 3 nights  
at Harare's Meikles hotel (corner of Jason Moyo and Third  
Street in downtown Harare; tel 263-4-707-721;  
fax 263-4-707-753). Non-smoking rooms are available upon  
request. The cost of the room is USD \$171.36 (government  
rate) per night which includes breakfast and tourist levy.  
Payment for hotel must be made in foreign currency.

¶3. Based on the current economic situation in the country,  
using a credit card could significantly increase your  
costs. Hotel payment must be made in U.S. cash or  
travelers checks. U.S. travelers checks are difficult to  
use except to pay hotel bills. Personal checks may be  
cashed at the Embassy cashier only for local currency and  
at the official exchange rate. Personal checks cannot be  
cashed at the Embassy for U.S. currency. Post recommends  
that travelers bring enough U.S. currency to cover  
anticipated needs in Zimbabwe.

¶4. Control Officer for the visit will be Political officer  
Glenn Warren who can be reached during work hours at  
263-3-250-593 extension 208; after hours at 263-4-250-595;  
home at 263-4-494-031; and cell phone at 263-011-201-648;  
or via email at WarrenGS@state.gov. An Embassy driver will  
meet and assist at the airport.

¶5. Post strongly urges leaving Embassy Harare's telephone  
number with family and business associates before departing  
for Zimbabwe so that you can be quickly located in the  
event of an emergency. The Embassy telephone number is  
263-4-250-593. Marine Security Guard Post extension is  
¶260.

¶6. Several recent visitors transiting Johannesburg to  
Harare have had items stolen from their luggage at  
Johannesburg International Airport. Please ensure that  
your luggage is locked and hand-carry valuable items.

¶7. Malaria is prevalent throughout Zimbabwe, except in

Harare. We strongly recommend the use of malaria prophylaxes and adjunctive measures when traveling outside of Harare.

18. The exchange rate is currently \$111,000 Zim dollars to US\$1, however this rate is subject to frequent change.

19. There is a non-waivable USD 30.00 per person departure tax, which is included in the cost of the air ticket.

(Note: the Zimbabwean Government recently began levying a USD 30.00 fee for US visitors in Zimbabwe, but airport authorities have been instructed to waive this fee for travelers with US diplomatic and official passports. End note.)

110. Harare is designated a high crime post by the Department of State. The Regional Security Officer (RSO) is required to brief all TDY visitors staying more than one week as soon as possible after their arrival at post. While Harare is a clean and pleasant city, street crime is a serious problem, particularly in tourist areas. Visitors have found it safer not to carry valuables, but rather to store them in hotel safety deposit boxes or safe rooms. Walking alone or at night downtown is not recommended as attacks have taken place on public streets and parks. The RSO recommends leaving all important documents (passports, plane tickets, etc.) in a hotel safe, and not wearing any jewelry on the street. In addition, visitors should avoid hanging a camera around their necks, carrying a protruding wallet, and carry or showing large amounts of money in public. We urge visitors to use the same security precautions they would exercise in any urban area. Avoid any large gatherings, demonstrations or political rallies

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in both rural and urban areas. Occupied farms are also to be avoided at all times.

111. Road safety/automobile travel: While traveling in vehicles, doors should be kept locked and windows rolled up. Car-jackings are common in Harare, and diplomatic vehicles and personnel are not immune to these attacks by armed thieves. Highway bandits are active on roads leading to border areas.

112. As per Secstate 286036, TDYers must coordinate the transport of official unclassified portable computers that will be used within the USG controlled access facilities with the RSO and ISSO.

DHANANI